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"Harmony in
Diversity"

PORTLAND CITY CLUB BULLETIN

"Active
Citizenship"

VOLUME II

PORTLAND, OREGON, FEBRUARY 10, 1922

NUMBER 20

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Hotel Benson, 12:00 Sharp

SPEAKER

WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD

Manager, Department of Industries, Portland Chamber of Commerce

SUBJECT

"Selling Portland"

The Diamond Lake Report will be Discussed

THE OPERATION OF THE STATE PAROLE SYSTEM

THE report of the City Club Committee appointed to study the form and operation of the federal and state parole systems in Oregon was approved by the Board of Governors and read before the Club last Friday. Action by the Club as a whole was deferred for one month.

The findings and recommendations of the report have been summarized for the benefit of Club members not present last week.

Types of Paroles

Federal System:—The defendant in a federal case must first serve a third of his time before he is eligible for a parole by the federal parole board. No complaints are heard as to the operation of the federal system.

State System:—The defendant under the state system may be paroled from the bench immediately after sentence is pronounced, murder and treason excepted, or he may be paroled by the trial judge at any time before his commitment to the penitentiary.

Once at the penitentiary the defendant must make application for parole to the state parole board, composed of three citizens appointed by the governor, which investigates the application and makes its recommendation to the governor, in whom is vested the power of paroling convicts.

Information Summarized

The Committee based its chief investigation on the operation of the bench parole and found an apparent agreement in the statements from various informants, as follows.

1. Many municipal and circuit judges parole offenders brought before them without having

sufficient knowledge of the facts to enable them to pass intelligently upon the advisability of parole.

2. Offenders with past prison records, or those who have been found guilty of former offenses, are often paroled after a second conviction, because their record is not known to the judge.

3. When prisoners are paroled to individuals who may or may not have any interest in law enforcement there is a lack of responsibility for the conduct and reports of the paroled prisoners.

4. Machinery should be set up whereby the proper county officials can be kept informed of the conduct of those paroled.

Recommendations

1. Paroles from the bench should be abolished in all cases where the defendant receives penitentiary sentence. Parole from the bench being operative only when a jail sentence is imposed.

2. A state parole board of three members, selected from men of recognized ability in the field of criminology and practical criminal psychology, should be appointed by the governor, and paid salaries sufficient to enable men of high calibre to devote their full time to the work.

3. The parole board should have a field organization consisting of a parole officer and sufficient deputies to cover the state thoroughly.

4. The board should investigate and act in regard to every prisoner sentenced to the penitentiary, before commitment.

Those prisoners found to be feeble-minded should be sent to the institution for feeble-minded;

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*"To inform its members and the community in
public matters and to arouse them to a realization
of the obligations of citizenship."*

CRIME SURVEYS MADE

At least three of the larger cities in the United States have made, or are making, "crime surveys." Toledo found the "crime wave" less extensive than the public had been led to believe. Philadelphia has just started a survey of its own, while Cleveland has completed a comprehensive study of the whole problem of criminal justice.

The survey condemns the practice of indiscriminate bench paroles, suspended sentences and "continuances" of hearings and trials which end in the case being dismissed. One of the principal recommendations is that the criminal courts be consolidated so that speed and consistency of policy may be secured by the operation of the entire machinery as a unit. The survey found that respectable citizens regard being caught for jury service as something akin to being swindled. It appears on the basis of excuses requested on account of illness that the high class residential districts of Cleveland are not nearly so healthful as the less desirable sections.

The survey points out the need for overhauling certain machinery no longer adapted to modern conditions.

The Membership Committee and sub-lieutenants are increasing the list of prospective City Club members, but the co-operation of every member is needed if the 600 membership goal is reached by March. Tell your friends about the substantial work accomplished by the Club.

CITY CLUB NOTES

A joyful half-hour with Pitt Parker, the versatile and keen-witted lecturer-cartoonist, two comprehensive City Club reports, and roast chicken for lunch are the outstanding memories of the Club's meeting last Friday at the Benson. The first and last mentioned were surprises not in the regular announcement by the Public Affairs Committee. Owing to a delay in train service, Mr. Parker was able to remain in the city Friday, and graciously accepted a long-standing invitation to speak before the City Club. The major feature of the entertainment was Mr. Parker's ability to illustrate his lecture with chalk and charcoal sketches.

A Portland grade school principal has found the City Club *Bulletin* of value in her civics classes. The children study the articles and report on them in class. The maps and statistics have been of special interest. One boy in the class located every arc light in his district on the City Club map showing the distribution of arc lights in the City. The *Bulletin* will be sent free to any school upon request.

C. W. Morden returned recently from the East where he visited the City Clubs of Boston and Chicago. At the Board meeting on Monday he described the work of the Boston City Club, which is housed in a twelve story building of its own and utilizes every floor for club purposes.

Plans for the construction of a third Bull Run pipe line, costing approximately \$2,000,000, have been announced by the city water bureau. The new conduit will double the amount of water being brought into the city and will insure an adequate supply for many years. The new pipe line will be twenty-four miles in length.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following applications for membership have been received and will be presented for the approval of the City Club, Friday, February 24th:

Jos. D. BOYD,
Pastor, Rodney Ave. Christian Ch.
VERNON J. BROWN,
Physician and Surgeon.
JOHN S. GREENY,
Mgr., Advance-Rumely Co.

State Parole System

Continued from page one

those insane to the insane hospital, and if inherent criminal tendencies be discovered the convict should be sent to the penitentiary for the full term of his sentence. If not inherently criminal, immediate parole should be given.

5. Every criminal before being paroled should furnish the name of a substantial person to act as his friend and advisor, the name of a substantial person agreeing to give him employment, and he should be compelled to report to the state parole officer regularly (federal system.)

Any criminal violating his parole in any particular should be returned to the penitentiary immediately and should be ineligible for future parole.

6. The parole officer and his deputies should assist the board in investigating the record and past life of every prisoner subject to parole. The parole officer and deputies should receive the written report of paroled men and should be held responsible at all times for their whereabouts and conduct.

Conclusion

"Your Committee feels that if such a system were adopted the state parole system would be put on a much more scientific basis and that a great many of the present evils of wholesale bench paroles and lax supervision of paroled prisoners would be eliminated.

"The extra expense of a salaried parole board and parole officers would be justified, in the opinion of your Committee, by the decrease in broken paroles; by the salvaging of worthy citizen timber, which an ill-timed prison sentence might destroy, and by the protection to society from habitual criminals often paroled under the present system."

The annual meeting of the Oregon Tuberculosis Association will be held in Room H, Central Library, at 2:30, Thursday afternoon, February 9th. Dr. Paul Lewis, director of the laboratory of the Henry Phipps Institute, Philadelphia, will be the principal speaker. He will also give an evening lecture. The public is invited.

The City Club offers the opportunity to join with other men of high ideals and genuine interest, in working toward the solution of the city's problems.

DIAMOND LAKE REPORT

(The following report of the City Club Committee on the proposed inclusion of Diamond Lake in the Crater Lake National Park was read before the Club last week and will be acted upon at the Friday meeting, February 10.)

Your sub-committee appointed to report upon the proposed inclusion of the Diamond Lake District in Crater Lake National Park respectfully submits the following report:

The matter resolves itself largely into the question as to whether this district, comprising about 91,000 acres bordering Crater Lake National Park on the north, can be administered to best advantage under the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, as at present, or under the National Parks Service, Department of the Interior, as proposed. It is necessary in the first place to consider the fundamental differences between the policies of these two administrations.

Two Administrations Compared

The Forest Service aims to develop all lands under its control in accordance with the use to which, in their judgment, it is best adapted; whether commercial (timber, grazing, mining, water power development, etc.) or recreational (hunting, fishing, the leasing of home or hotel sites, the building of scenic roads, etc.). The National Parks Service, on the other hand, develops the lands under its control strictly for recreational purposes, and grants concessions for the establishment and operation of hotels, bus-lines, etc.

The contention of the National Parks Service is that the proposed addition would round out Crater Lake National Park, and that many people who visit that park would spend more time there if it included a spot where attractive camp-sites on the shores of a lake could be provided for them, after the stay of a day or two at Crater Lake. They contend also that by including the Diamond Lake district the whole park could be managed more efficiently under one head, and that it would have the benefit of national advertising under their policy of publicity. Large sums of money are spent annually by Americans in European travels; and by increasing the number of attractions in national parks much of this money can be kept in the United States, at the same time inducing people to know their own country better. The change would also provide a larger game sanctuary, so that many animals which pass the summer unmolested in the park would not be

killed when they descend to lower altitudes for the winter.

On the other hand, the Forest Service contends that the district can be administered with fewer restrictions and more personal liberty under the present regime, and at the same time be developed satisfactorily as a recreational area. During the summer of 1921 a road was constructed by the Forest Service from Diamond Lake to the northern boundary of the park, and another leading southwest from Diamond Lake, connecting with the Crater Lake-Medford highway. The old Oregon Military Highway was also made passable, and within a year or two another road will undoubtedly be constructed northward from Diamond Lake, leading to Crescent Lake via Windigo Pass. The road to the east, connecting with the Bend-Klamath Falls highway, will also be improved in the near future. These roads will make Diamond Lake more easily accessible, and should bring many automobile tourists, campers, and fishermen to the district.

Commercial Value Outlined

As for the commercial value of the area, the timber and grazing resources are not sufficiently important to warrant serious consideration. In order to protect the recreational features, grazing is already prohibited in the vicinity of Diamond Lake.

The water power possibilities, however, should be considered very carefully. It is the opinion of several competent engineers that the Umpqua River offers the greatest possibility of water power development in southern Oregon. This river has a low-water flow, extending over a period of four months, of from 600 to 700 second feet. This will develop 150,000 H. P. without storage. Diamond Lake is the only practical storage site, and if maximum development were made by raising the lake level about 30 feet, an additional 100,000 acre feet of storage would be secured, which would provide a flow of 250 second feet for 180 days—a period considerably longer than the natural low-water period—thus increasing the available continuous power 70,000 H. P. and making a total available, with storage, of 220,000 H. P. The above does not include a possible plant at the outlet of the lake, which, if installed, would yield an additional 20,000 H. P.

Reservoir Possibilities Discussed

Until the demand for power on the Umpqua has exceeded 150,000 H. P. there will be no need for a reservoir at Diamond Lake, but in future

years that demand will undoubtedly arise, and the question will then be: Should the scenic advantages of Diamond Lake outweigh the industrial demands?

According to another capable hydraulic engineer, however, the value of Diamond Lake as a reservoir is very questionable, owing to the porous character of the underlying soil, which he is inclined to believe will not stand the pressure of much additional depth of water.

It has long been the policy of Congress not to cheapen the national parks by setting aside as such any areas not of pre-eminent grandeur or beauty. While additions to already existing parks may be considered in a somewhat different light, it can safely be said that although the proposed addition includes some beautiful scenery, it is no more beautiful than a dozen other similar regions in the Cascade Mountains of Oregon.

The matter of game protection can be handled by the creation of a state game preserve surrounding the park. This was done several years ago at Rainier National Park, when it was proposed to widen its boundaries. After considerable discussion, no changes in the park boundaries were made, but a state game sanctuary was created, surrounding the park on all sides.

Conclusion

After careful consideration of all the evidence available, your committee is of the opinion that the "burden of proof" rests upon the advocates of the proposed addition to show its advisability; and unless more conclusive evidence is produced in favor of the change, the administration of the district should remain in the hands of the Forest Service.

Recommendation

Any question of this kind, however, brings up many points, some of them highly technical, and many arguments advanced by short-sighted and selfish interests. All that a committee like ours can do is to consider the best evidence available, some of which is admittedly open to question. It therefore appears to us that, as a matter of National Parks policy, an absolutely impartial commission should be appointed by Congress to pass upon all matters regarding the creation of National Parks, or addition thereto. In a case like this, for example, a careful survey, requiring months of technical investigation, should be made. We regard this as the only method of settling such proposals conclusively and impartially, and of standardizing and making consistent our National Parks policy.